

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OMB-01 SY-10 OPR-02 INRE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 AID-20

COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 CU-04 FAA-00 NIC-01 RSR-01

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TAGS: CI PINTS PINS MILI ELAB

SUBJ: VIOLENCE IN VALPO, MONTERO RESIGNATION REPORTED

REF: A) SANTIAGO 3901; B) DATT 583 DTG 0114457 SEP 73

1. SUMMARY: GOVT. DENIES THAT IT HAS BEEN MEETING WITH STRIKING TRANSPORT OWNERS SINCE ALLENDE'S ULTIMATUM TO END STRIKE OR THAT ANY AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED. RESIGNATION OF ADM MONTERO AS NAVY CINC REPORTED BUT NOT OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED. MIR SUPPORTERS BATTLED WITH POLICE AND MARINES IN VALPARAISO AUG 31. PDC PDT AYLWIN STATED REOPENING OF DIALOGUE WITH GOVT IS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL GOVT POLICIES RECTIFIED. END SUMMARY

2. ARMED CONFRONTATION BETWEEN MIR MEMBERS AND CARABINEROS, MARINES AND OPPOSITION ELEMENTS ROCKED VALPARAISO AFTERNOON AUG 31. INCIDENTS APPARENTLY STARTED WITH MIR-LED WORKERS AND STUDENTS SEIZED MAIN ROAD CONNECTING VALPO WITH NEARBY VINA DEL MAR. POLICE ATTEMPTS TO REOPEN ROAD MET WITH STRONG RESISTANCE, AND,
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ACCORDING TO OPPOSITION PRESS, GUNFIRE. NAVY MARINES CALLED IN

TO ASSIST FINALLY MANAGED TO CLEAR ROAD, REPORTEDLY ARRESTING OVER 80 PEOPLE IN PROCESS. ALSO PARTICIPATING IN AFTERNOON'S EVENTS WERE OPPOSITION STUDENTS AND NEARBY CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY. AREA HAS BEEN SCENE OF SOME BACK AND FORTH SPARRING IN RECENT DAYS AS UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT FEDERATION HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN WELL-PUBLICIZED CAMPAIGN TO COLLECT SIGNATURES ON PETITION DEMANDING ALLENDE'S RESIGNATION. WITH PERMISSION OF RECTOR MARINES CONDUCTED ARMS SEARCH WITHIN UNIVERSITY AND ALSO IN NEARBY PRIVATE SCHOOL REPORTEDLY OCCUPIED BY MIR.

3. SPECULATION AND SO-FAR UNCONFIRMED REPORTS CONCERNING RESIGNATION OF ADM MONTERO AS CINC ARE WIDESPREAD IN CITY (REF B). AFTER SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH GROUPS OF NAVY OFFICERS IN VALPARAISO MONTERO AND MINDEFENSE LETELIER CALLED ON PRESIDENT ALLENDE EARLY EVENING AUG 31.

4. SOLUTION OF TRANSPORT STRIKE HAS TAKEN NEW TURN AS GOVT. DENIED AUG 31 THAT ANY AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN REACHED OR THAT GOVT. NEGOTIATORS HAVE EVEN MET WITH STRIKE LEADERS SINCE PRES. ALLENDE'S ULTIMATUM TO END STRIKE BY MIDNIGHT AUG 29. GOVT. STATEMENTS OBVIOUSLY AT VARIANCE WITH REPEATED STRIKE LEADERS' COMMENTS TO PRESS THAT NEGOTIATORS HAD WORKED OUT AGREEMENT AND THAT PRESIDENTIAL IMPRIMATUR ONLY ELEMENT LACKING TO GET TRUCKS BACK ON ROAD. UP PARTY CABINET MINISTERS QUOTED IN PRESS TO EFFECT THAT GOVT. PUSHING AHEAD WITH HARDLINE PROGRAM TO REQUISITION VEHICLES AND TURN THEM OVER TO INDIVIDUALS WILLING TO GET THEM BACK IN SERVICE. GOVT'S TOUGH TALK MAY BE PART OF ONGOING BARGAINING. HOWEVER, IMPRESSION GIVEN BY CONFUSION SURROUNDING POSSIBLE STRIKE SETTLEMENT IS THAT MILITARY NEGOTIATORS ONCE AGAIN BEING UNDERCUT BY PRES. AND UP PARTIES. MERCHANTS IN SOUTHERN PROVINCES REPORTEDLY HAVE ENDED THEIR SHUTDOWN BUT PROFESSIONAL GUILDS IN THE SAME AREA ARE MAINTAINING THEIR STRIKE STATUS. REPORTS APPEAR IN PRESS OF POSSIBLE PILOT STRIKE THAT WOULD EFFECT LAN FLGITHS.

5. ARMY CONDUCTED ARMS SEARCH AFTERNOON AUG 31 ON INDUGAS FACTORY WHERE SUSPECTS ARRESTED IN CASE OF MURDERED ARMY LIEUTENANT WORKED. FACTORY EMPLOYEES TOLD REPORTERS THAT RAID HAD BEEN EXPECTED SINCE EARLY MORNING. OPPOSITION HEAVILY USING WHAT ARE APPARENTLY NEWS LEAKS FROM INVESTIGATIONS POLICE TO EFFECT THAT ORIGINAL POLICE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STORY OF EVENTS SURROUNDING DEATH (HEATED POLITICAL DISCUSSION ENDING IN GUNFIGHT) ARE UNTRUE. OPPOSITION VERSION HOLDS THAT LIEUTENANT UNARMED AND MURDERED WHILE MEMBERS LEFT EXTREMIST GROUP TRYING TO KIDNAP HIM. MILITARY INTELLIGENCE HAS ENTERED INVESTIGATION OF INCIDENT AND ARMY APPARENTLY TRYING TO HAVE WHOLE CASE TRANSFERRED TO MILITARY COURTS.

6. PDC PRES AYLWIN ISSUED RESPONSE AUG 31 TO PRESS CONFERENCE

REMARKS OF MININT BRIONES. AYLWIN ACKNOWLEDGED HE HAD CONVERSED WITH BRIONES, BUT AHAT HE HAD TOLD HIM THAT GOVT'S OFFER TO REOPEN DIALOGUE WITH PDC "IMPOSSIBLE" UNTIL GOVT. POLICIES RECTIFIED. SYLWIN ALSO AFFIRMED THAT ONLY PDC NATIONAL COUNCIL COULD AUTHORIZE CONVERSATION WITH GOVT. IN NAME OF PARTY.

7. OPPOSITION SENATORS PATRICIO PHILLIPS (P.) AND ANDRES ZALDIVAR (PDC) RELEASED TO PRESS AUG 31 STATEMENT CHARGING CENTRAL BANK WITH FALSIFYING ITS BALANCE IN ATTEMPT TO HIDE LOSSES DEVELOPING OUT OF EXCESSIVE LOW OR NO INTEREST LOANS TO CORFO AND NATION-ALIZED INDUSTRIES. SENATORS CLAIMED SITUATION PUTS CHILE IN BAD LIGHT GIVEN PROXIMITY NEW ROUND PARIS CLUB NEGOTIATIONS AND VISIT OF IMF TEAM TO CHILE. SEANTORS ALSO STATED THAT THEY HAD MADE CHARGES KNOWN TO THEN FINFINANCE ADM. MONTERO ON AGU 22 BUT HIS DEPARTURE FOROM MINISTRY HAD MADE HIS EFFECTIVE PROSECUTION OF INVESTIGATION IMPOSSIBLE. CENTRAL BANK OFFICIALS IMMEDIATELY REFUTED CHARGE AS ONE IN RECENT SERIES OF OPPOSITION ATTEMPTS TO CAST DOUBT ON PROBITY OF GOVT. FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

8. SEVERAL INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE REPORTED THROUGHOUT COUNTRY. GOC'S LA NACION BANNER HEADLINES AUG 31 DISCOVERY OF UNEXPLODED DYNAMITE BOMB ON GROUNDS OF PRIVATE RESIDENCE USED BY CUBAN EMBASSY AS SCHOOL FOR ITS DEPENDENTS. SEPT 1 MERCURIO PUBLISHES UNCONFIRMED REPORTS OF FACH DISCOVERY OF EXTREME LEFT GUERRILLA TRAINING CAMP IN CAUTIN PROVINCE. FACH ISSUED STATEMENT GIVING ITS VERSION OF INCIDENTS EVENING AUG 30 NEAR ITS SANTIAGO EL BOSQUE BASE. ACCORDING TO STATEMENT, UP SYMPATHIZERS BLOCKED BASE'S ACCESS ROAD DURING COURSE OF PROTEST DEMONSTRATION APPARENTLY UNRELATED TO FACH. POLICE AND FACH ATTEMPTS TO CLEAR ROAD LED TO SOME GUNFIRE. DAVIS

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